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ABSTRACT

Opening remarks by Else Granheim, President of the international Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), address the meeting theme--"The Basis of Library and Information Services for National Development"--with special attention to the promotion of the reading habit and adult education. Remarks cover IFLA activities in the past several years, brief descriptions of a few of IFLA's core programs, and special concerns of libraries in the Third World. Bound with the opening address are annual reports (with varying levels of detail) from five sections of IFLA: (1) The Section of Libraries for the Blind report by Winnie Vitznasky includes information on meetings, monthly mailings, publishing activities, recommendations on national standards, a discussion of braille in Africa and the availability of materials for the blind, and copyright developments; (2) The report of the Section of Library Service to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers covers publications, standing committee meetings, and an extension of the Section's terms of reference to include library services to those in penal institutions; (3) The Section of Children's Libraries report by Chairman Lena Skoglund covers business matters, promotion of the reading habit, projects, and publications; (4) a National Centres for Library Services (ROTNAC) report by Secretary Y. de Niet; and (5) a progress report from the Section of Public Libraries. (THC)

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, NAIROBI 1984

Division:

Section:

Plenary Session

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Opening address

by

Eise Granheim

President of IFLA

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Remarks:

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2

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TO THE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

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Your Excellency the Vice-President, Mr. Minister, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen

In October last year I had the great honour, Your Excellency, of informing His Excellency, the President of the Republic of Kenya, of what IFLA stands for, and about the specific tasks to which we intended to give priority during this, IFLA's 50th, General Conference.

I am glad and proud that we today have His Excellency the Vice-President with us to open our Conference.

In fact, it took IFLA fifty general conferences to come to Africa. That it took so long to come about is not so very strange when we consider the time needed for librarianship to develop, but it is equally obvious that the time was ripe for this to happen.

The first preliminary invitation to hold our 1984 conference in Nairobi was put forward by Kenya's National Librarian during the IFLA Council meeting at Copenhagen in 1979. I trust that the present conference will prove its significance to African librarians, to our Kenyan colleagues first and foremost, and that as many of them as possible will have the opportunity of participating in the meetings to be held this week.

However, communication is of course not intended to be one-way only. We who are foreigners in this country, have an equally great need to learn about Kenya, and as the programme shows, we are counting on a fruitful exchange of experience and ideas with our hosts.

Last year's conference focused on the theme *Libraries in a Technological world* in view of the importance of technological developments for the libraries of today. This year, the theme chosen is *The Basis of Library and Information Services for National Development*, in which - inter alia - the "promotion of the reading habit and adult education" are to be stressed. The scope of our choice of themes is thus very wide, and some people may perhaps think that in comparing these themes, I intend to stress the difference in levels of development between libraries in the Third World and those in industrialized countries. Indeed, I do not. On the contrary, I mention this in order to warn against any uncritical acceptance of new technology and new media as such, to the neglect of an evaluation of its content, the message.

Any literary message or general community information does not alter in essence if it is presented in a different wrapping, but repackaging may enable it to reach a larger audience, and it is on this basis that it should be evaluated.

In 1982 Unesco organized *A World Congress on Books*. A number of publications on books and reading in different countries were prepared on this occasion. One of these publications dealt with conditions in Kenya, but in so far as I am competent to judge, it also threw light on a number of problems of a general character facing developing countries, such as the lack of books in vernacular languages to describe first and foremost the indigenous culture, caused by the very limited market for this kind of literature so long as illiteracy continues to be a major problem. The lack of foreign currency also creates difficulties in many places as regards the provision of sufficient quantities of printing paper.

Under the impact of external forces inexorably watering down local cultures, original traditions can no longer be handed down solely by word of mouth. They must be described in writing so as to safeguard them for posterity, and Kenya is fortunate in having Kiswahili, in addition to English, as a unifying lingua franca, a language excelling by its flexibility and facility of adaptation. In order that ancient and unique traditions may not be lost before they are written down, I am convinced that librarians among others can do valuable work by recording oral traditions. Indirectly, this activity may, hopefully, at the same time contribute to a wider understanding of the fact that it is not the goal of public libraries to impose foreign cultures on the local population through literature reflecting conditions alien to them.

As a counterweight to such a possible negative attitude I think it is extremely important, not least in the Third World, to develop the public libraries into community information centres where everybody, villagers as well as inhabitants of densely populated areas, can have access to information so that they may more effectively contribute to the development of both the local community in which they live and society as a whole.

I think that a positive general interest in reading can be generated in this way, and a relapse into illiteracy may be prevented.

A reading environment is important to create a society aware of the benefits to be derived from reading. This applies to people of all age groups and regardless of their cultural, social or educational level.

On the other hand, we who love one-way communication with a book in solitude, ought not to forget that many people who value fellowship highly may consider the book an obstacle to sharing in communal activities where everyone gives as much as he or she takes, because communication with the book is a private experience. Yes, it may be considered a private experience, but it need not necessarily be so.

Let us consider, for instance, the effect of fellowship and common enjoyment which may be created by reading aloud. This brings me inevitably to the significance of reading proficiency and reading training and the importance of good school libraries in this connection.

As citizen of a very small language community, I am familiar with the great problems one is faced with as regards the provision of good national children's books - books depicting an environment which the children can recognize, books which support their own conceptions. By backing the establishment of libraries for children and young people, thus creating possibilities for a national children's literature, we can subsequently have a generation of citizens who are socially aware and active, not only in the big cities but also in rural districts; a generation so conscious of the value of their own culture that they will critically consider influences from outside and know what will serve their own as well as their country's development.

An ever greater number of young people with increasing need for information and knowledge from outside sources will subsequently lead to increased demands on the information system of one's own country, and eventually a link between the national information system and that of other countries must be established.

Unesco and IFLA cooperated in organizing a Congress on the Universal Availability of Publications (UAP) in Paris in 1982. A number of barriers to such availability were identified, and through seminars, studies of various kinds, and requests to the relevant authorities efforts are being made to throw light on these barriers and break them down. A training seminar on UAP is scheduled to take place here in Nairobi, straight after this General Conference.

Unesco supports and carries on IFLA's UAP Programme and there is reason to believe that we will obtain similar support when one of our new core programmes concerning *Transborder Data Flow* is definitely launched. IFLA's cooperation with Unesco has developed very favourably in recent years, and the establishment of the Unesco General Information Programme (PGI) as a separate programme has proved to be a fortunate move. There is no reason to conceal that we are worried about the future of Unesco on account of the prospect that some of its member states may withdraw from the Organization, thereby weakening the professional foundation for its activities. The IFLA Executive Board decided at its spring meeting of this year to issue a statement expressing as its opinion that a solution must be found so that Unesco can continue to fulfil its important tasks.

As a guest at the American Library Association's annual meeting in June, I had the pleasure of being present when a resolution supporting continued US membership in Unesco was passed unanimously. Other countries' library associations have also adopted similar statements.

I have touched upon a couple of IFLA's core programmes. It seems natural here in Nairobi to round off with a few words about another important programme: *Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World*. Like all the other core programmes this one also cuts through all specialized interests in presenting to the international information community a cohesive approach to a goal or a problem of global concern.

This core programme is neither a goal nor a problem new to IFLA, but what is new is the endeavour to plan a cohesive programme for creating the best possible conditions for a harmonious and balanced self-development of library services in the Third World.

In order to achieve this, we of IFLA need to appeal for support and understanding on the part of all cooperating forces, i.e. international and national organizations whose activities are governed by similar objectives, as well as individuals. IFLA's Regional Development Fund from which source - by the way - quite a few African colleagues are being sponsored in order to enable them to participate in this conference, is open for contributions. May the present moment while we are all enjoying Kenyan hospitality be a suitable occasion to demonstrate the truth behind the saying: "Where there is a will, there is a way!" - "Penye nia ipo njia!"



IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, NAIROBI 1984

Division: LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

Section:

101-GENPU

984

PRESENTATION OF THE REPORTS OF THE SECTIONS BELONGING
TO THE DIVISION OF LIBRARIES SERVING THE GENERAL PUBLIC

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IFLA Section of Libraries
for the Blind.

Annual Report 1983 - 1984.

Meetings.

A Standing Committee meeting was held in Reykjavik, Iceland, on the 9th and 10th of February, 1984.

Monthly Information Mailings.

Each month information on all aspects of library service to the blind is sent to interested parties all over the world. Minutes from the Section's Expert Meeting in Marburg plus the meetings in Munich 1983 were disseminated through the mailings as were minutes from the SC-meeting in Reykjavik.

These mailings are handled by National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, Washington, U.S.A.

Newsletter.

4 newsletters were circulated through Section-mailings containing up-dates on the Section's work, conference-planning and IFLA-activities.

Expert Meeting, Amsterdam, 1984.

The Section has arranged an Expert Meeting in Amsterdam prior to the IFLA conference.

The meeting is sponsored by the Dutch Ministry of Welfare, Health

and Cultural Affairs and the Dutch National Foundation for the Blind and Partially Sighted, and will take place August 15-17, 1984.

An organizing committee under the leadership of Henry Fidler, Christelijke Blindenbibliotheek, Ermelo, Netherlands, has been set up to take care of all practical arrangements. The Section chairman is responsible for the professional program which covers new technology in production of braille and audio-materials as well as the issue of organization of library-services to the blind.

Approved Recommendations on Working out National Standards of Library Service for the Blind.

The standards were published autumn 1983. It is the intention that these standards will be included as an appendix to the revised edition of "Standards for Public Libraries."

International Directory of Braille Music Collections.

This directory is based on a survey prepared by the Section of Libraries for the Blind in co-operation with National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress and the International Association of Music Libraries, Archives and Documentation Centers.

The Directory is compiled and edited by Suzanne E. Thorin and published by National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress, summer 1984.

A Guide to Developing Braille and Talking Book Service, edited by Leslie L. Clark.

A revised manuscript has been submitted to IFLA in July, 1984, for publication by K.G. Saur.

International Directory of Libraries for the Blind, Braille and Recording Production Facilities, edited by Frank Kurt Cylke and Peter Hanke. Has been published in July 1984 by National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.

Tactile Map Depository.

As a first step in establishing a Tactile Map Depository questionnaires were mailed in December, 1983.

The questionnaire was drawn up by Hans Doove, Nederlandsche Blindenbibliotheek, The Hague, Netherlands, and Paulli Thomsen, Instituttet for Blinde og Svagsynede, Copenhagen, Denmark.

Hans Doove supervises the project. The deadline for return of the questionnaires is July 1st, 1984. A catalogue will be compiled from the received information and will be published by National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Library of Congress.

Braille in Africa.

The Section has taken on an IFLA / UNESCO contract on setting up units to produce braille material in Africa. The contract is supervised by Rainer Witte, Deutsche Blindenstudienanstalt, Marburg, FRG. Questionnaires were mailed in July 1984.

International Postage Committee.

The tasks of the International Postage Committee have been to prepare a design for a logo, which should be used internationally to indicate braille/audio material, and to prepare a proposal for approaches to relevant authorities for free or reduced rate airmail and/or air freight for material for the blind.

A proposal on both items was submitted to the Standing Committee in February 1984 by William C. Byrne, chairman of the International Postage Committee, Royal Blind Society of New South Wales, Australia, and Clifford Law, Library Services for the Handicapped, National Library of Australia, Canberra, Australia. Furthermore a paper is prepared to facilitate decisionmaking during this year's conference.

Availability of Materials for the Blind.

An IFLA sponsored study on the above mentioned subject has been taken on by the Section. The study is co-ordinated by Winnie Vitzansky, Statens Bibliotek og Trykkeri for Blinde, Copenhagen, Denmark. Clifford Law, Australia, and Edwige Mortyr, Norges Blindeforbunds Bibliotek, Oslo, Norway, are responsible for carrying out the survey. Questionnaires were sent out for one part of the survey in October, 1983, and for the other part of the survey in March, 1984.

The study is expected to be finished early 1985.

Copyright.

At the IFLA conference in Munich 1983 a meeting was held between IFLA, IPA, WIPO and the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind. As a result of this meeting Clifford Law, Australia, was designated to develop a copyright form acceptable to English language countries. The form will be ready for the Nairobi conference.

As another offshoot of this meeting the Section has asked IFLA to undertake a study on "Publisher's Tendency to Confine their Permission to Produce Recorded and Embossed Copyrighted Materials to National Usage".

Working Group to Revise Standards for Public Libraries.

The Section is represented in this working group and the chairman attended a meeting of the group at Hamburg in May, 1984.

Medium-Term Programme 1986-1991.

Drafting of the new MTP has been discussed at the Standing Committee meeting in February, and a first draft is finished.

July 1984



Winnie Vitzansky,
Chairman, IFLA.

Section of Libraries
for the Blind.

SECTION OF LIBRARY SERVICES
TO HOSPITAL PATIENTS AND
HANDICAPPED READERS

REPORT 1983/84

During the year two News Bulletins have been circulated to the 78 members of the Section; the first including details of the papers presented at the Munich Conference and the second giving news, information on Section activities and details of the Section's programme in Nairobi.

Publications

- a) In September the joint project with the Section of Children's Libraries was completed when the pamphlet 'Books for the Mentally Handicapped (IFLA Professional Reports - No.1) was published. The compilers, M.Marshall, S.Molst and S.Simonis-Rupert are to be congratulated.
- b) 'The Guidelines for Libraries serving Hospital Patients and Disabled People in the Community' (IFLA Professional Reports - No.2) was published in May 1984. The Working Group have, under the expert chairmanship of Mrs. J.M.Clarke, produced a useful tool for all those planning to set up or improve library services to patients and staff in hospitals, and services to the disabled in the community.

Standing Committee

The Standing Committee met in London in April 1984. Items discussed were the Medium Term Programme, programmes for the Nairobi and Chicago Conferences, co-option of corresponding members, ways of increasing the membership of the Section, and Standing Committee elections in 1985.

Sadly in February 1984 the Section's secretary, Mrs Wylva Partington, died after a short illness. Wylva Partington had only been working in IFLA for three years, but had given much of her time and expertise to the work of the Section. She will be remembered for her knowledge of all aspects of hospital librarianship and for her ability to communicate so well with everyone she met. W.Anderson(U.K.) has taken on the duties of Secretary.

Extension of the Section's terms of reference.

During the 1981 Conference, Section members proposed that the Section's terms of reference should be widened to include library services to those in penal institutions. The Professional Board has given its approval to this proposal, but said that the name of the Section should be changed to reflect the new interest.



INGEKOMEN 1 AUG. 1984

Round Table of National Centres
for Library Services

Report for the meeting of the
Division of Libraries Serving the
General Public on
Monday 20 August 1984 at 16.30

secretariat:
NBLC
P.O.B. 93054
2509 AB THE HAGUE
The Netherlands

tel. 70-264351
telex 32102

Report of the Round Table of National Centres for Library Services

ROTNAC issued its second Newsletter in December 1983.
It contained results of the meetings in Munich and an
introduction to a new member since one year:
The German Library Institute.

In May of this year ROTNAC held its half-yearly meeting in Lund, Sweden.
The main subject of the meeting was: 'The influence of the economic
crisis in the work of the different centres and the solutions
for it in the coming years.

The members have discussed the subject and the written reports are
published in Newsletter 1 of this year, which has been issued in
the beginning of August.

The Medium-Term Programme was discussed and it was decided that the
Working Group on Automation will hold its postponed meeting on
10th and 11th October in Ballerup, Denmark.

During the IFLA Conference ROTNAC will have two open meetings,
one on central service in a developing country especially for
Africans and a joint meeting with the Section Library Services
to Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers.

As not all the members will be able to attend the Conference,
ROTNAC will have no closed meeting during the Conference.

The following closed meeting will be in Helsinki, Finland in May 1985.

Y. de Niet
secretary ROTNAC

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Ter behouding	

After discussion within the Standing Committee and with members of the Divisional Co-ordinating Board the title of 'Section for Libraries serving Disadvantaged Persons' was proposed. This title has been approved by the Professional Board and will be used from September onwards, that is after the Nairobi Conference. The Standing Committee will be considering ways of compiling information on the current state of library services in penal institutions, and a paper on prison libraries will be given at the 1985 Conference in Chicago.

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SECTION OF
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

ANNUAL REPORT. 1983/84.

As the Standing Committee has not met since the General Conference in Munich, 1983, the work within the Section has been performed by correspondence.

A draft to a new Medium Term Programme for the Section has been discussed among the members and a revised version of the first draft is going to be presented at the Section's first business meeting in Nairobi.

An extra Standing Committee-meeting for the Section and Round Table of Librarians representing Documentation Centres Serving Research on Children's Literature is to be held in East Berlin 25-28 October, 1984 on invitation by IFLA Nationalkomitee der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik.

Two Newsletters have been prepared by the Section's secretary Alice Geradts and have been sent out in January and June, 1984 to the more than 100 members of the Section.

PROMOTION OF THE READING HABIT.

The Section has chosen the subtheme, Promotion of the Reading Habit as theme for the Section's activities during the Nairobi-meeting. We will lay stress on the importance to have a rich book production of children's books and well equipped children's libraries for national development and full literacy in both industrialized countries and the so-called Third World.

The theme is represented during the conference by three speakers chosen by the Section:

Ellen Kitonga, author and editor of children's books in Kenya will speak about the problems in her country for the children's literature due to economic constraints and to the lack of a widespread reading habit.

Ms. A. Mupawaenda will report, on the same meeting from Zimbabwean story-telling and home library groups.

On a joint meeting with the Public Library Section the Children's Section is going to be represented by Gloria Dillsworth, Chief Librarian of Sierra Leone Library Board, who will speak on the theme: Promoting Children's library work and Reading Habits in Africa.

Library Associations and Institutions
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SECTION OF
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

PROJECTS.

Books for All.

The co-operative Action Programme is administered by the Children's section of IFLA under the supervision of Unesco. Margret Mashall, former chairman of the Section is responsible for the project. The aim of the project is to get donation of money which are then converted into UNUM-cheques (Unesco units of money) and these UNUM:s are sent to organisations in many countries that have requested aid for children's books and libraries.

Many countries in Africa and Asia have benefitted from the Books for All programme and the coupons have helped develop new community libraries and school libraries.

Home libraries in Zimbabwe.

This project is under the responsibility of Ellen Waungana, the Adults Literacy Association of Zimbabwe, and is financially supported by CIDA (Canadian International Development Agency). Experimental home libraries in rural areas are being developed.

One of the projects objectives is to stimulate the book production in Zimbabwe in the indigenous languages. The project-leaders want the parents to introduce books to the children from an early age and the books therefore need to be in the language used at home.

"We need books in order to have any libraries," Ms Waugana says in her report. "The next step will be to organize story tellers who will visit some places where children gather."

Education and Training of Children's Librarians.

In 1971 the Section published a survey of the education and training of children's librarians in a number of countries. (Library Service to Children, 3. Training, Copenhagen, 1971.)

In Leipzig 1981 a working group was appointed to make a revised edition of this publication. The working group which has met in Oslo in 1983 and in Copenhagen June, 1984 has started to collect articles, which describes the education and training of children's librarians from a number of aspects, from 10-15 different countries. The working group expects to get enough elements to draw different usable models suggesting how to place children's librarianship teaching in the whole context of the library schools as well as the universities. A manuscript to a new publication is to be presented at the Chicago-meeting 1985.

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SECTION OF
CHILDREN'S LIBRARIES

PUBLICATIONS.

Books for the Mentally Handicapped- A Guide to Selection.
IFLA Professional Reports 1. the Hague, 1984.

This book has been compiled by Margaret Marshall, Sancia Simonis-Rupert and Susanne Holst under the auspices of the Section of Children's Libraries and the Section of Libraries Serving Hospital Patients and Handicapped Readers.

The information in the guide is intended to be a guideline that can be adopted or adapted to fit local conditions and needs.

Library Service to Children: An International Survey Ed. by
Colin Ray. IFLA Publications. 12. New ed. Saur, 1983.

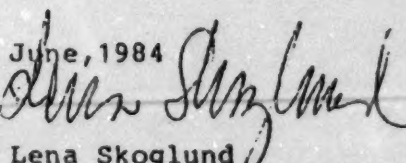
An international survey of children's library provision, presenting 21 countries. The book can serve a valuable purpose in the field of comparative librarianship and the study of librarianship, as well as providing a stimulus to other countries to extend their own services.

In general each article follows a broadly consistent pattern: background to the country and its public library service is followed by an outline of children's library provision.

Children's Literature Abstracts.

Abstracting journal edited by Colin Ray.

June, 1984


Lena Skoglund
chairman

SECTION OF PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Annual Report, August 1983 - August 1984

1983-1984 saw very great changes in the composition of the Section Committee. Five new members joined the Standing Committee: May Brooking Negrao (Brazil), Jorgen Bro Glistrup (Denmark), Tulin Saglamtune (Turkey), Margareta Torngren (Sweden), and Shona Wallis (South Africa). Three members left the Standing Committee: Hans Doove (Netherlands), Flemming Ettrup (Denmark), and Else Granheim (Norway).

However, the change which had the greatest effect on the Committee was the resignation of Johannes Daugbjerg as Chairman and Flemming Ettrup as Secretary and Treasurer, and Vibeke Munk Pedersen as Joint Secretary. Max Broome took over the Chair from Johannes Daugbjerg, Hans Mezes was appointed as Secretary and Treasurer. These changes inevitably disrupted the work of the Committee, particularly as the new Secretary found himself unexpectedly and heavily involved in defending his library service from severe cuts in expenditure and proposals for decentralisation. The North Sea lying between the new Chairman and Secretary also proved something of an impediment.

Despite these difficulties, solid progress was achieved.

- * The Report of the Working Group on User Research with the title "Use and Non-Use of Public Libraries: Measuring Public Library Use," was completed and submitted to UNESCO in a form ready for publication.
- * The Working Group on the Impact of New Technology completed its work and its final report will be presented at the general Conference in Nairobi.
- * The Working Group on Revised Standards for Public Libraries made excellent progress under the efficient Chairmanship of Arthur Jones and there is every reason to expect that its final report will be ready as scheduled for presentation to the general Conference in Chicago.
- * The Standing Committee met in Paris in February and reviewed possible arrangements for a publicity drive. Consideration was also given to new projects for inclusion in the Medium Term Programme, 1986-1991. A small Working Group was appointed to prepare a proposal for one of the selected projects: The Measurement of Performance in Public Libraries. In addition, a review of the question of charges for public library services was proposed and this will be further considered, along with other ideas, when the Standing Committee meets in Nairobi in August.

* The Section's Chairman played an active part in the Committee which arranged the Pre-Session Seminar in Nairobi and has been appointed to Chair the Working Party which has been established by the Professional Board to prepare for the Pre-Session Seminar in Chicago, in 1985.